926 Grand Ave
Rockford Ills
Jan 11th/89

My dear Mr Watson

The box is here and I have gone through the contents making a hasty reconnoissance to see what would turn up to repay careful study. I hasten to assure you ~~that~~ the specimens have suffered no injury in transitu and to express my appreciation of your kindness in sending them ~~to~~ me.

I have my account of the Mammal Wilbur all written out but will hold the MS for a few days until I ascertain in how far - if at all. the accession

of so much fresh material may necessitate changes

Even in my rapid examination I have come upon a few things which afford me immense satisfaction as confirming views already held. — nor per contra have I found anything which I should have felt much ashamed to let stand as work of my own — The chief value of the collection to me of course lies in the fact of its containing so many of Careys and Andersons types —

Thanks for your good wishes coming, as they do with so much of freshness and felicity of expression I'm not likely to get down in the dumps unless completely overloaded — I feel ~~pretty yarns~~ now as if the study of Willows was the chief end of man

Cordially Bebb